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# AFL Pledges Strength To Free Unions Abroad

Photo: ICFTU, 20 W. 40th St., New York, N. Y.

HEAD ICFTU DELEGATION.—New York.—Matthew Woll (left), AFL vice president and chairman of AFL delegation to the second world congress of International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, at Milan, Italy, July 4-14, confers with Jacob S. Potofsky, president CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers and chairman CIO delegation to ICFTU.

Washington.—Sending a score of its spokesmen to world labor conferences this summer, the American Federation of Labor pledged its efforts to promote world peace without appeasement and to strengthen free trade unions in the struggle against totalitarianism.

The AFL delegates will carry its fight for better working and living standards around the world into the month-long session of the International Labor Organization opening in Geneva, Switzerland, June 6.

AFL International Representative George P. Delaney is the U. S. worker delegate to the ILO, which consists of worker, employer and government delegates from 62 countries.

Mr. Delaney's advisers from the AFL are William Collins, AFL regional director in New York; John T. O'Brien, Indianapolis, vice president, Brotherhood of Teamsters; Edward J. Hillock, Washington, secretary-treasurer United Association of Journeymen Plumbers; Rudolph Faupl, International representative International Association of Machinists.

The CIO resumed the practice of naming advisers, also, sending Michael Ross, Jacob Potofsky, Boyd Wilson and Martin Kyne.

Five AFL vice presidents are included in the United States delegation to the second world congress of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in Milan, Italy, July 4-14.

They are Matthew Woll, Photo Engravers; George M. Harrison, Railway Clerks; William C. Doherty, Letter Carriers; Harry C. Bates, Bricklayers; David Dubinsky, Ladies Garment Workers.

Others are Robert Byron, president Sheet Metal Workers; A. Philip Randolph, president Sleeping Car Porters; Luigi Antonini, vice president Ladies Garment Workers; Anthony C. D'Andrea, president Chicago Laborers' District Council; Irving Brown, AFL European representative; Serafino Romualdi, AFL Latin American representative; Jay Lovestone, executive secretary AFL Free Trade Union Committee.

In connection with the ICFTU sessions, the AFL and CIO delegations issued a joint statement which said in part:

"Our aims are two-fold—to protect and promote world peace without appeasement and to strengthen free trade unions in the struggle against totalitarianism whether Communist or Fascist.

"The American labor movement is united in its determination to achieve, in cooperation with the trade union movements in other democratic countries and through the United Nations, a higher standard of living for the people, social security, increasing international cooperation for peace, strengthening of democracy, and a chance for liberty-loving people in every country to live, not in fear of dictatorship, but in the sunlight of freedom.

"We believe that through the efforts of the ICFTU, which the American labor movement helped to organize almost two years ago, we will be able to strengthen democratic resistance to the Soviet imperialists who are trying to subvert free trade unionism to Communist ends and to overthrow the independence and sovereignty of other peoples. We firmly believe that the ICFTU Congress in Milan, opening auspiciously on a memorable day in world history, is one of the most formidable threats to the extension of Communist dictatorship. Where free trade unions are strong and alert and uncompromising with totalitarianism, neither Communism nor Fascism nor any other form of totalitarianism can thrive."

## Alaska No Gold Mine For Workers

Juneau, Alaska.—The Alaska Territorial Federation of Labor advised the AFL Building and Construction Trades Department in Washington that Alaska is no Shangri-La gold mine for workers.

Cledamae Cammock, executive secretary Alaska AFL, told national headquarters that extravagant claims of laborers earning over $900 a month, carpenters over $1,800 a month, published in some newspapers, are misleading and causing many men great hardships.

On the contrary a carpenter's net check for 48 hours work in one week, living in a contractor's camp amounted to $92.96. Milk, if obtainable is 40 cents a quart, bread 35 cents a loaf.

"The situation is a very undesirable one for all building trades," Mr. Cammock said. He asked the widest publicity to counteract the "Shangri-La" advertisements in Midwest and West Coast papers.

# Meany Sends AFL Praise For Cuba

Havana, Cuba.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany told the 7th national convention of the Confederation of Labor of Cuba that there is "sincere rejoicing among free trade unionists throughout the world" because of the "remarkable progress" of the Cuban Confederation.

Mr. Meany extended the fraternal praise and good wishes of the AFL to the convention in a speech read by Serafino Romualdi, AFL international representative for Latin America and secretary of the Inter-American Regional Organization.

"On behalf of the American Federation of Labor I give to you the renewed pledge that under the banner of democratic trade unionism we shall continue together our common struggle to abolish exploitation, to prepare a better future for workers everywhere, and to make the world safe for human rights and freedom," Mr. Meany said.

He had been invited to address the convention but was unable because of prior commitments elsewhere.

Mr. Meany praised the Cuban Federation for its leadership in giving Cuban assistance to the United Nations in Korea, and for its partnership with the AFL and other trade union organizations of North America in providing "dynamic and effective leadership in the Latin American trade union field."

He said also:

"The remarkable progress of the Confederation of Labor of Cuba has caused sincere rejoicing among free trade unionists throughout the world. This convention assumes special importance because it marks the achievement of complete unity of the Cuban democratic labor forces.

"Furthermore, it takes place at a time when the voice of Cuban organized labor, raised in defense of true political democracy, free trade unionism and economic justice for the wage earners, is commanding great attention and respect, particularly in Latin America, where the cause of organized labor is still facing grave difficulties.

"From your success the workers of Latin America will derive inspiration and renewed courage to go forward until they too will have at their disposal a powerful weapon, similar to your organization, for the achievement of their just aspirations."

## United Labor Names Keenan to DPA Post

Washington.—The United Labor Policy Committee recommended Joseph D. Keenan, secretary-treasurer AFL Building and Construction Trades Department, to be assistant to the administrator of the Defense Production Administration.

O. A. Knight, president CIO Oil Workers, was recommended for a similar position in National Production Administration.

Railway Labor Executives Association will name the labor representative to be assistant to Director Michael V. DiSalle of the Office of Price Stabilization.

The appointments round out those to be made by United Labor at the top level of the nation's defense mobilization and stabilization program.

Most of the nominees still have to be formally appointed and sworn into office before labor is actively participating in the day-by-day policy making and administration of mobilization.

### 376 Women Hold IAM Union Posts

Washington.—The AFL International Association of Machinists reports that 376 women hold offices in IAM local and district lodges.

Several thousand others are shop committeewomen and shop stewards.

"It is a rare day that somewhere in the IAM a man doesn't thank a shop committeewoman for handling his grievance successfully," comments The Machinist, IAM weekly newspaper.

## Green Asks AFL Support in Coast Farm Union Strike

Washington.—AFL President William Green pledged the full support of the American Federation of Labor to 6,000 members of the National Farm Labor Union on strike against "wetback" conditions in the Imperial Valley of California near El Centro.

The union seeks a contract providing preferential employment for farm workers who are American citizens, a wage increase from the rate of 60 cents an hour now prevailing, and agreement to end the employment of illegal aliens from Mexico.

The workers were first organized last year and since January have joined the union in increasing numbers. Over 90 percent of the local resident workers employed are members.

On April 27, attempts were begun to negotiate with Imperial Valley Farmers Association, representing 500 large scale farm operators. The Association offered small wage increases but refused to recognize the union. On May 23, one of the largest operators in the Association fired 20 workers employed by him for 5 to 10 years. This precipitated the strike.

The situation is complicated by the employment of 4,800 Mexican Nationals under legal contract to the Imperial Valley Farmers Association. Under terms of the U. S. agreement with Mexico such Mexican workers are to be removed in the event of a labor dispute. The National Farm Labor Union has urged the Labor Department to enforce this section of the International Agreement.

Noting that the local central labor union and the State Federation of Labor have approved the strike, Mr. Green called upon all affiliated organizations to assist the farm workers in their struggle.

### INSTALLED

New York.—The New York Women's Trade Union League installed Gerel Rubien as president at a garden party June 4.

Vice presidents are Mary Goff, Louise Laidlaw Backus and Louise Mitchell.

# Railway Clerks Re-Elect Harrison, Boost Per Capita, Set Future Goals

By JOHN F. HENNING
San Francisco Correspondent AFL News Service.

San Francisco.—The AFL Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks re-elected AFL Vice-President George M. Harrison to another term at the quadrennial convention.

It voted a boost in the per capita tax to the grand lodge from 70 cents to $1, first increase in 16 years, and adopted a comprehensive act of future goals.

A calm but implacable determination to carry on the progress of the past characterized the 19th regular convention attended by 1,138 delegates, the largest assembly in the unit's history.

Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin, who flew across the continent to address the Brotherhood delegates, lauded the Brotherhood as the "world's largest white-collar union" and particularly cited the public service record of President Harrison, newly appointed special assistant to war mobilization boss Charles E. Wilson.

The labor secretary devoted the major portion of his speech to a defense of the Truman foreign policy as the program best qualified to maintain world peace and halt the bandit march of Soviet imperialism. Other guest speakers included California's Governor Earl Warren; Oscar R. Ewing, Administrator Federal Security Agency; and Mayor Elmer E. Robinson of San Francisco.

Messages of congratulations were sent by President Truman and Senator James E. Murray of Montana, chairman Senate Labor Committee.

Present at all sessions as fraternal delegates were Percy Morris, M. P., President; and George B. Thorneycroft, General Secretary of the British Railway Clerks' Association.

In his keynote address to the convention, President Harrison disclosed that wage increases won by the Brotherhood since the last convention in 1947 exceeded the progress of any previous span of four years. During the 1947-51 period, the union won aggregate raises of 41 cents per hour plus the right of 48 hours' pay for 40 hours' work. Mr. Harrison also asserted that in the same period over 200 major controversies with the carriers were adjudicated without any interruption of work.

The grand president outlined prospects for tremendous future progress by reason of the recent congressional action which permits union shop agreements to be negotiated under the terms of the Railway Labor Act.

The convention overwhelmingly adopted the following recommendations as goals for immediate action:

(1) Wage boosts "whenever opportunity permits"; (2) Free hospital care to the railway men at the carriers' expense; (3) Improved working rules and coverage; (4) Elimination of "short-hour" and "casual" employment; (5) Safe and sanitary working conditions;

(6) Strengthening of the war-time job protection agreement to safeguard employes affected by abandonment of lines; (7) Liberalization of the Railway Retirement and Employment Insurance Acts; (8) Prompt action on grievances; (9) Establishment of uniform dues, initiation and re-instatement fees by all lodges; (10) Boosting of the per capita tax to the grand lodge from 70 cents to $1, the first increase in 16 years.

In the sphere of international relations, the convention endorsed the Truman administration program of containing international communism.

Grand President Harrison and the following incumbent officers were all re-elected for another four-year term: Phil E. Ziegler, Secretary-Treasurer; Vice-Presidents G. B. Goble, F. H. Hall, J. P. Jesse, H. E. Lyons, Robert Morgan, L. B. Snedden, J. H. Sylvester; Trustees John Fitzgibbon, G. A. Link, Raymond Hicks, Arthur Blackwell, J. A. Scholl.

The 1955 quadrennial convention will be held in Milwaukee.

### UNION MEMBERS GIVE BLOOD

New York.—Two hundred members of Local 32-E, AFL Building Service Employes International Union, donated a pint of blood each to the Red Cross.

# AFL Fights Repeal Of Income Tax

Washington.—AFL President William Green called on all State Federations of Labor to fight the pernicious amendment to the Federal Constitution which would repeal the U. S. income tax.

This amendment, sponsored by "The American Taxpayers Association," Washington, D. C., would repeal the 16th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution which authorizes Congress to levy an income tax.

A proposed substitute amendment would limit federal taxes to 25 percent.

Mr. Green said if this drive is successful it could mean enactment of a federal sales tax and the shift of an even greater burden of the tax load to the low income wage earners.

He said the drive has already resulted in 24 states, out of 36 needed, ratifying the plan.

Mr. Green called on state federations in the 24 remaining states to use their influence to block ratification. He urged those in states where ratification has occurred to sponsor legislation to recall that action.

Following is the text of his letter to the state federations:

I direct your attention to the current campaign in all the states to repeal the 16th amendment to the United States Constitution, which reads as follows:

"The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states, and without regard to any census or enumeration."

This is known as the income tax amendment to the Constitution. The American Taxpayers Association of Washington, D. C., is sponsoring the repeal of the present income tax amendment and the substitution of an amendment to limit federal taxes to 25 percent. Not only would income taxes be affected but inheritance and gift levies likewise would be limited to 25 percent.

If this substitute amendment to the Constitution is adopted, it can only mean that a national sales tax is on the way in and the burden of taxation will be shifted to an even greater disportionate basis onto the backs of those who will least be able to pay and who are now bearing the greatest share of the taxes. This means the low income groups. It would relieve those making enormous salaries by greatly reducing their taxes.

Of the 36 states necessary to call a constitutional convention, the legislative bodies of 24 states already have adopted ratifying resolutions, Florida being the most recent. Opponents of the substitute amendment recently defeated it in Ohio. But the battle ground still remains in 24 states and if half of them adopt the substitute proposal, that would be a sufficient number to require the Congress to call a constitutional convention. And we would be confronted with an accomplished fact as two-thirds of the states would have voted approval for the wiping out of the present income tax amendment.

I urge that every effort be taken to defeat any proposal in your state legislature in your own state. If you find that the resolution has been approved in one House but not in both, there still is time to prevent its adoption. And in those states which have approved the resolution, there may be a possibility of recalling the action and thus removing your state from the ratification column.

Our nation, to all intents and purposes, is at war to preserve our way of life. To knock out the supports to our financial structure of government would be to make us objects of ridicule in the eyes of the world. We cannot wage a defense against the predatory interests now on the march against us without having the means with which to buy the sinews of war.

I ask, therefore, that every effort possible be made in your state to withhold approval of the plan to cripple the financial competence of our country, now in its hour of dire need. No greater patriotic step could be taken at this time. It is also necessary to protect the interests of the low income group of which the membership of labor is a part.

### MEETS JUNE 29-30

Atlanta, Ga.—The semi-annual meeting of the Southeastern Building Trades Conference will meet in Washington, D. C., June 29 and 30. D. B. Hudson, director, expects a large attendance since it is the first meeting to be held in Washington.

## SET CONFERENCE

Haverford, Pa.—The Labor Education Association's ninth annual summer conference will be held at Haverford College June 23-24. Labor speakers include President Arnold Zander of the AFL State, County and Municipal Workers.

The Red Cross Blood Bank needs your type blood.

Photo: AFL News Service

**SPENCE PROMISES JUST DEFENSE ACT.—Washington.—Chairman Brent Spence (center) of House Banking Committee promises fellow Kentuckians, members of Kentucky United Labor Committee, he hopes to report a just Defense Production Act to protect American people from ruinous inflation. Members of Kentucky United Labor with Spence are Martin Leahy, chairman Louisville & Nashville AFL Shop Craft Federation; Fred Ross, secretary Kentucky CIO; Edward H. Weyler, secretary Kentucky AFL; Mr. Spence; Al Whitehouse, president Kentucky CIO; Rex May, Jr., chairman Kentucky State Council AFL International Association of Machinists; Henry Seibert, CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers.**

Photo: Burke & Dean, 108 W. Lake St., Chicago, Ill.

**COAL MINER CONGRATULATES BOILERMAKER.—AFL President William Green (left) praises AFL Vice President Charles J. MacGowan, president Brotherhood of Boilermakers, as "leader who richly deserves tribute of his fellow trade unionists and accolade of public" at dinner honoring Mr. MacGowan's appointment as AFL fraternal delegate to British Trade Union Congress in September.**

# AFL Asks Japanese Constitution Under Peace Treaty Protect Unions

Chicago.—The AFL Executive Council welcomed the initiative of the U. S. in proceeding towards signing a treaty of peace with Japan.

The Council proposed that the peace treaty take into primary consideration the preservation of the rights and benefits provided the Japanese people in the post-war constitution.

These include the changes that were made in the education system, the agrarian reforms, and provisions guaranteeing freedom of trade union organization.

The Council said in a statement:

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor welcomes the initiative of our government in proceeding with dispatch and vigor towards the signing of a treaty of peace with Japan."

We especially commend our government for unmasking and resisting the sinister maneuvers of the Russian imperialist warmongers to delay and sabotage the signing with the Japanese nation of a peace treaty free from all vindictiveness and vengeance and based on international justice.

The restoration of full national sovereignty and independence to the Japanese people and their becoming a respected member of the community of free peoples are a paramount prerequisite not only for peace in the Far East but also for the restoration of stability, harmonious relations among all nations of the world. No effort should be spared to enable the Japanese people to contribute fully and freely their skills and talents to the advancement of democracy, prosperity, peace and social progress; particularly in the Far East.

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor recognizes the desirability of leaving Japan to continue on a democratic path and to serve as a force for the maintenance and preservation of world peace. To aid the Japanese people in this democratic course, the Executive Council proposes that the peace treaty to be signed take into primary consideration the preservation of the rights and benefits provided them in the post-war Constitution. To that end, we propose:

1. To help prevent the recurrence of aggressive militarism, future Japanese governments shall be responsible solely to the House of Representatives. In accordance with the present Constitution, the independent powers and prerogatives formerly exercised by the army and navy should not be restored.

2. The fundamental changes made in the education system—such as the elimination from all textbooks of ultranationalist, militarist, and Shinto mythical teachings—should be continued.

3. The agrarian reforms, initiated under the direction of American authorities, should be maintained. The Constitutional provision guaranteeing freedom of trade union organization should remain intact and inviolable. In the same spirit of democracy and social progress, Japan, in agreement with the signatory treaty powers, should continue a stern check on monopolies of the former Zaibatsu type.

4. In addition to such joint assurance of internal security against all enemies of democracy from within, the treaty should likewise provide for adequate support to Japan against aggression without and to enable it to contribute adequately to the maintenance of peace in Asia and the world as a whole.

It is also urged that the preambles to the treaty embody a directive advising the present and future authorities to continue the present body of labor legislation in effect as the basic foundation for the government to assure and secure human rights and individual and collective progress.

# Prices 9.6 Percent Above Year Ago

Washington.—Retail prices of goods and services bought by moderate-income urban families rose again between March and April.

The Consumers' Price Index released by the U. S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics showed that all major groups in the index rose fractionally except food and fuel, clothing and refrigeration. The largest increase (0.5 percent) was in the housefurnishing group. The retail food price index declined 0.2 percent and the fuel, electricity and refrigeration group index was 0.1 percent lower than in March.

The index for April 15, 1951, was 184.6 (1935-39 = 100), 0.1 percent above March 15, 1951. This was 8.5 percent higher than the index for June 1950 (pre-Korea) and 9.6 percent above a year ago.

The decline of 0.2 percent in food prices between March 15 and April 15 brought the index to 225.7 percent of the 1935-39 average; 11.1 percent above last June; and 14.4 percent above a year ago. This was the first month average food prices have declined since February 1950. Lower food prices were reported in 38 of the 56 cities surveyed.

# Meat Cutters Rise Points New Policy

Washington.—A new wage stabilization policy is evolving.

Latest important link to be forged was Wage Stabilization Board approval of a 9 cents an hour general wage increase for more than 200,000 workers in the packinghouse industry.

The workers are represented by the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen and the CIO United Packinghouse Workers.

WSB approved the 9 cents, which pierced the old 10 percent ceiling set last February. It referred to a special panel an additional 2 cents an hour pay boost to correct intra-plant inequities.

Public and labor members approved the increase over industry opposition. WSB Chairman George W. Taylor said:

"We are fully aware that this decision looks in the direction of a general policy."

Earlier, Economic Stabilization Director Eric Johnston had approved a cost-of-living escalator for 1,000,000 railway workers and had given instructions to the newly-reconstituted tri-partite wage board to revise the Feb. 15 decision which froze wages at 10 percent above the January 1950 level.

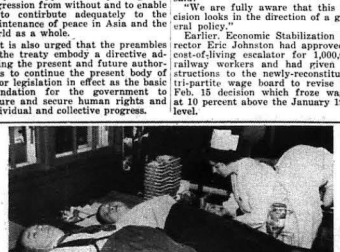


Photo: Platnick Photo, 160 Yale St., Hempstead, N. Y.

**AFL COUNCIL SETS BLOOD DONOR RECORD.—Uniondale, Long Island, N. Y.—William C. De Koning, chairman Central Trades and Labor Council of Nassau and Suffolk counties, and Mrs. De Koning donate blood to Red Cross. AFL members and families gave 297 pints, to set a new record for Long Island, exceeding the 291 pints given by members of Kings Point Maritime Academy at Great Neck. Mr. De Koning said in organizing the drive that postcards were sent to potential donors so that definite appointments could be made to facilitate the donations.**

# Ohio Labor Forms United Drive For New Defense Act

Columbus, Ohio.—Representatives of more than one million Ohio trade unionists organized the United Labor Policy Committee of Ohio.

More than 50 leaders of the AFL, CIO, and Railroad Brotherhoods, representing every industrial area in the state, elected permanent co-chairmen and adopted a statement of policy for their first major fight for a new Defense Production Act based on equality of sacrifice.

Elected as co-chairmen were Phil Hannah, secretary-treasurer AFL Ohio Federation of Labor, and Jacob Clyman, secretary-treasurer Ohio CIO Council.

Following the meeting, they released a Declaration of Principles which said in part:

In organizing this committee we seek no special privilege for labor. We believe each group in our country must bear its fair share of the burden of sacrifice if freedom is to prevail.

We, the workers of Ohio, are prepared to shoulder our share of the burden. We insist that no group in our economy . . . be they workers, consumers, housewives or farmers . . . should be forced to sacrifice more than any other group.

Unfortunately, that has been the position under the present Defense Production Act with its built-in profits for special interest groups.

Therefore, we have organized this United Labor Policy Committee and its purposes are quickly and simply stated:

First, we are determined that our way of life must be protected from the continuing threat posed by Communist aggression.

Secondly, we are determined that our economy must be protected from that vicious home-front enemy . . . inflation.

To achieve these goals, we formally pledge ourselves to support wholeheartedly the policies and program adopted by the United Labor Policy Committee on the national level.

We are well aware that the average housewife has no organized voice to air her grievances. We shall welcome her support and shall work with all like-minded persons in this anti-inflation battle.

We will continue to wage the anti-inflation fight, individually and collectively, well aware that this is not the fight of labor alone but the struggle of all the people in America against a common enemy.

# 'Liberty' Prints RR Unions' Side

New York.—"Why Railroad Workers Get Sick," the first in a series of labor articles, appeared in the May issue of Liberty Magazine as part of that publication's newly-developed policy of providing an opportunity for "labor's side of the news" to reach the general public.

The railroad article, written by veteran labor reporter Ruben Levin, presents a staff interpretation of the latest flare-up in what now has become an ancient controversy. Levin is staff writer for "Labor," national weekly newspaper of 15 railroad brotherhoods, and president of Labor Press Association, a cooperative news service for the nation's labor publications.

A thorough discussion of the issues leading up to the "Switchmen's Sickness," together with recommendations for eventual solution of the chronic problems of the railroad age, completes the article in the current issue which represents the first appearance in any general publication of the labor side of a public controversy.

"While the 'switchmen's sickness' was a malady defined in any medical encyclopedia," Mr. Levin points out that "there could be no question that the switchmen were sick—sick, angry and disillusioned at the long and endless delays in their wage case."

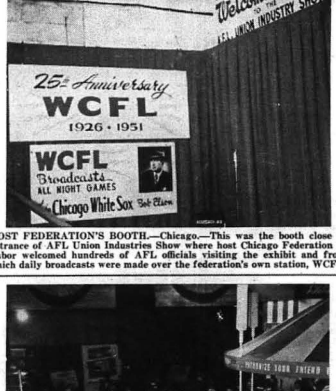
Government seizure was hoped by many to be a step toward early solution. It is future, Levin reports, has best been explained by Senator Wayne Morse as a result of his findings during the Senate Labor Committee hearings.

"These government seizures are a farce," said Morse, "they put the White House on the side of the railroads. That is where the White House has been ever since in this instance." Then he added less lengthily, "It stinks!"

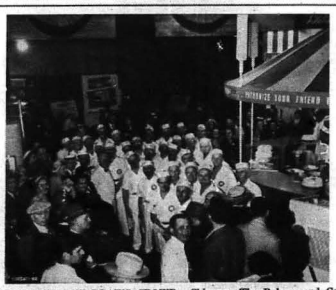
## THE AFL—Union Industries Show

CHICAGO MAYOR WATCHES POTTERS—Chicago.—AFL President William Green (left) tells interested Mayor Martin H. Kennelly of Chicago how Marion Shively of the AFL Brotherhood of Operative Potters molds the fine American-made pottery in the Potters' exhibit at the AFL Union Industries Show. Next to Mayor Kennelly are AFL Vice President Charles J. MacGowan, Sheet Metal Workers President Robert Byron and AFL Vice President Matthew Woll.

TEAMSTERS THREE—Chicago.—Raymond F. Leheney (left), West Coast leader Teamsters Union and executive secretary AFL Union Label Trades Department, and William A. Lee (right), president Chicago Federation of Labor and Bakery Drivers Local 734, welcome to the AFL Union Industries Show the Teamsters' top man, President Daniel J. Tobin, AFL vice president.




HOST FEDERATION'S BOOTH—Chicago.—This was the booth close to entrance of AFL Union Industries Show where host Chicago Federation of Labor welcomed hundreds of AFL officials visiting the exhibit and from which daily broadcasts were made over the federation's own station, WCFL.



BAKERS CHORUS DRAWS CROWD.—Chicago.—The Bakery and Confectionery Workers chorus sang at the union's exhibit in the big AFL Union Industries Show. The Bakers' carousel, in which bakery workers demonstrated their skill, was surrounded almost constantly by a big crowd throughout the 9-day run.

# Firemen & Oilers Gain 99 Locals, Matz Tells Parley

(Special to AFL News Service)

Chicago.—Strong organizing gains by the AFL International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers were reported by President Anthony E. Matz to the 24th convention.

Since the last convention in 1946, the brotherhood has chartered 99 new locals, President Matz said. The Firemen and Oilers now represent more than 50,000 members in 900 local unions in the United States and Canada.

Six additional railroads have been organized during the last five years. With other AFL shopcraft unions, the Firemen and Oilers have organized the Pullman Co. and signed a rules agreement, the first since 1921 with the company.

Contract gains include the recent national 12½-cent hourly wage increase on the railroads, with a cost-of-living escalator clause which already has added 6 cents more; the 40-hour week at 48 hours pay, plus a 7-cent raise, both gained in 1949; and the 15½-cent raise of 1947.

In industries other than railroads, the Firemen and Oilers have raised wages 40 to 70 cents an hour, and have instituted health and welfare plans.

But the gains of many years are jeopardized, Mr. Matz warned, by inflation, profiteering and by legislation enacted or pending in Congress and state legislatures to restrict labor. He called for equality of sacrifice.

"The welfare of the worker and his family must not be sacrificed on the altar of higher profits," said Mr. Matz.

"Labor sincerely wants to do its share in the trying days which lie before us. But its position in the defense program must be such that labor can be an effective instrument."

### SEE BRITISH MILLS

London, England.—Hugh D. Moseley, Winnsboro, S. C., vice president AFL United Textile Workers, and John W. Lefevre, New York Mills, N. Y., engineer Local 753 United Textile Workers, were members of an Economic Cooperation Administration management-labor textile productivity team to make a study of British textile production methods.

# Green Counsels MacGowan Tell BTUC To Help Halt Traffic With Enemy

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent AFL News Service

Chicago.—With bagpipes skirling in lieu of steam whistles, the AFL Boilermakers gave their president, Charles J. MacGowan, a rousing testimonial honoring his appointment as AFL fraternal delegate to the British Trades Union Congress convention next September.

Arranged by the Chicago Boilermakers' local and coinciding with the Union Industries Show and the quarterly meeting of the AFL Executive Council, the MacGowan dinner was probably the biggest and most colorful social occasion of 1951 for Chicago's labor movement.

Among those present were the AFL Executive Council, the mayors of Chicago and Kansas City, and a host of leaders of government, industry and labor.

One of the speakers was Richard J. Gray, president AFL Building and Construction Trades Council, named as Mr. MacGowan's fraternal delegate colleague to the BTUC.

Messages were read from Vice President Alban Barkley, the staff back in the Kansas City headquarters office, Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin, and—most treasured of all—from Mr. MacGowan's youngest daughter, Betty, a nurse on duty in Japan.

Distinguished speakers paid tribute to Mr. MacGowan's long record of service, beginning with his apprenticeship at the age of 15, down through his leadership of the Boilermakers through World War II, when Liberty and Victory ships followed each other out of the yards with no time loss resulting from labor disputes.

"He will carry our message to the free workers of Britain that free workers everywhere must stand together to defend our freedoms," said AFL President William Green. "He will tell them, too, that the American people are shocked at revelations that rubber has been sent to China. He will ask the British delegates to use their influence to bring to a halt this unjustifiable traffic with the enemy."

Mr. MacGowan, with his immense shoulders and his close-cut white hair standing up like a brush above his square face, was the central figure in his own show. He passed on the honors to the members of his union.

"A lot of people are unfamiliar with our craft," he said. "But our economy, as we know it, could not exist without the boilermakers' work.

"The power plants and generators which light the homes, operate the toaster, the vacuum cleaner, the refrigerator, could not be possible without steam generating plants created by boilermakers.

"We all know the iron horse. The steam boiler is the basis of the entire railroad industry. But the gasoline in automobiles also must come through the cracking tanks of the petroleum industry.

"Every steel, water-borne vessel, from the river tug to the battleship Missouri, the Queen Elizabeth and the Queen Mary, was built by boilermakers . . . although I'm willing to admit other crafts worked on it, too.

"Basically, the power shipping and transportation industries are dependent on steam."

He traced the 71-year history of the Boilermakers from the June, 1880, meeting in Chicago, when the brotherhood was formed by delegates from 11 locals. Most recent milestone is amalgamation with the Blacksmiths' brotherhood, now in progress.

## Chicago Pupils Learn From Show

Chicago.—Jack Davis, arts and crafts teacher at Columbus Elementary School, found a gold mine of ideas to use in his classes at the AFL Union Industries Show.

At the Glass Bottle Blowers Union exhibit, entries in the Glass Hobby contest being conducted by the union gave him an idea for classroom use. The lamps, vases and other items made out of empty glass bottles, made excellent models for his pupils to copy.

One of the lamps he intends to have his students copy was made from a beverage bottle by winding string closely about it, painting it a bright red, adding artificial flower decorations, then finishing it with a coat of shellac. It was submitted by Mrs. A. J. Deligot of Wheeling, W. Va.

Another lamp was made from a two-quart milk bottle covered with foolstone, a ceramic-like material which molds like clay and hardens like hand-made pottery.

Lee W. Minton, president Glass Bottle Blowers Union, explained that the Glass Hobby contest offers $1,000 in Savings Bonds as prizes and is drawing entries from all parts of the country. It closes Oct. 15, and anyone is eligible to enter. Prizes will be awarded for the most unique or interesting lamps, vases, dolls, banks, ship models or other items made from glass bottles.

At the Pottery Workers Union booths, Mr. Davis watched the potters in action and worked out plans for making a pottery wheel at which his students can make vases, ash trays, flower pots and other items which stimulate creativeness.

"The thing that impressed me most about the show," said Mr. Davis, "is that in spite of the crowd of 100,000 that jammed the show the day I attended, the union officials I spoke to were extremely cooperative in answering questions and voluntarily donated samples of materials for use of the students."

Editors can use mats of these photos singly or as complete photo story of this AFL project

LEHENEY WELCOMES PACE—Chicago.—Raymond F. Leheney (left), executive secretary AFL Union Label Trades Department, pins guest badge on Secretary of Army Frank Pace on his arrival on Armed Forces Day at AFL Union Industries Show. Secretary Pace praised show as practical demonstration of labor-management cooperation to make and keep America strong.

COMPARE SHOW OPENING NOTES.—Chicago.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany (left) and AFL Vice President W. C. Birthright, president Barbers, compare notes at opening of the AFL Union Industries Show.

## Leather Workers Join Meat Cutters

Chicago.—The AFL United Leather Workers International Union amalgamated with the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America in a step approved by the AFL Executive Council.

Merger of the Leather Workers, headed by Bernard G. Quinn, Philadelphia, gave the Meat Cutters upwards of 5,000 additional members and inclusion in its jurisdiction of wage earners in the harness and saddlery industry and in the tannery industry, but not in the manufacture of pocketbooks, leather novelties, luggage and leather belts.

Negotiations for the merger had been underway for some time.

Hold on to your U. S. Savings bonds—buy more.

# New Jersey AFL Sets Affiliation Record With 165

Newark, N. J.—The New Jersey State Federation of Labor broke all records in its 73 years history by enrolling a total of 165 new unions, craft councils and central labor bodies, since its last convention in October 1950, a period of 8 months.

State AFL President Louis P. Marciante made this announcement preliminary to the formal report to the federation's 73d annual convention June 4-6 at Atlantic City. Commencing this year, all federation conventions will be held in the spring, instead of the fall, as has been the customary practice.

"Never before has the state AFL witnessed such a phenomenal rise in constituent affiliation," said Mr. Marciante. "It has brought the affiliated membership strength to an all-time high. The increased affiliation was achieved in 19 of the 21 counties of the state and hence is symbolic of the growth of the federation since our expansion program was launched less than two years ago when we set up our present state headquarters."

The record-breaking drive that brought the 165 new additions was directed personally by Mr. Marciante, assisted by Secretary-Treasurer Vincent J. Murphy, and with the cooperation of various representatives of international unions.

A breakdown of the new affiliates shows that all 13 New Jersey locals of the Brick and Clay Workers are now affiliated with the State Federation of Labor. Twelve more Carpenters' locals and a similar number from the Electricians joined the federation as did 10 from the Bricklayers, 9 from the Luggage Workers and a similar number from the Machinists, and 8 each from the Painters and Printing Pressmen. There also were 8 federal labor unions that joined.

From each of the following crafts, 5 more local unions joined: Teachers, Typographical, International Ladies Garment Workers, and State, County and Municipal Employes. From each of the following, 4 more locals joined: Chemical Workers, Potters and Pulp and Sulphite Workers.

Other trades from whose ranks came new affiliates were: Bakers, Barbers, Bill Posters, Boilermakers, Bookbinders, Building Service Employes, Cement, Lime and Gypsum Workers, Post Office Clerks, Coopers, Distillery Workers, Fire Fighters, United Garment Workers, Hatters, Hod Carriers, Hotel and Restaurant Employes, Ironworkers, Jewelry Workers, Lathers, Office Employes, Papermakers, Plasterers, Metal Polishers, Stage and Theatrical Employes, Bus and Trolley Men and Teamsters and Chauffeurs (Local 676 of Camden).

## TO RATIFY MERGER

New York.—The AFL International Handbag, Luggage, Belt and Novelty Workers' Union called a special unity convention of all affiliated local unions in the United States and Canada, to be held in Atlantic City June 7-10 to approve the amalgamation of the Pocketbook Workers' Union, New York, and its affiliates with the AFL international.

The merger of the Pocketbook Workers' Union with the international was brought about following the appointment of a committee of three for that purpose by AFL President William Green and the Executive Council. The committee consists of Matthew Woll, AFL vice president; David Dubinsky, president International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and James C. Quinn, secretary Central Trades and Labor Council of Greater New York.

## MARK TRAGEDY

New York.—Delegations from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and other states joined a group of 500 garment workers in the 40th anniversary pilgrimage of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union Student Fellowship to the grave of the victims of the Triangle Fire tragedy on May 20.

On the morning of March 25, 1911 fire swept through the factory of the Triangle Waist Company, at Greene Street and Washington Place, New York City. Fifteen tragic minutes saw the death of 146 workers, mostly young women. The ghastly event struck deep into the public consciousness of the time and resulted in a powerful impetus for union strength and legislation which has since eliminated the fire-trap sweatshop and the industrial chaos of the times.

## THE AFL—Union Industries Show (Building Trades)

BUILDING TRADES EXHIBIT.—Chicago.—President Richard J. Gray of AFL Building Trades Department (left) and George Nolan, representative AFL Boilermakers, pause at entrance to AFL Union Industries Show biggest single section, "Building Trades Exhibit," which featured "America's most skilled craftsmen."

PLASTERER CASTS OFFICIALS.—Chicago.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany (seated) and President John E. Rooney of Plasterers' and Cement Masons (standing) pose for skilled craftsmen to mold their features in plaster at AFL Union Industries Show.

MILNE VISITS IBEW BOOTH.—Chicago.—Secretary-Treasurer J. Scott Milne of AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers poses with members of Admiral Television local union in Building Trades Exhibit area at the AFL Union Industries Show.

# New York Friends Honor Collins, Named Adviser to ILO Conference

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent AFL News Service

New York.—It was more of a family get-together they gave Bill Collins, New York's AFL regional organizer, on his appointment as a labor adviser to the International Labor Organization session in Geneva in June.

At the luncheon given Bill by the Central Trades and Labor Council, nobody made a speech that could truthfully be called earthshaking. All that anybody said from AFL President William Green on down was that Bill Collins was a swell guy, had served the labor movement loyally and the AFL especially, and how glad they were to be his friends.

President Green recalled that he had known the guest of honor way back when Samuel Gompers had first appointed Bill Collins as an organizer. President Green said that he had appointed Bill to the ILO job because he was devoted to the AFL philosophy and that he would make an excellent representative for American labor at an international meeting. The AFL leader also recalled how the ILO had been established, under the aegis of Gompers at Versailles after World War I.

Secretary-Treasurer George Meany also talked about the AFL's relationship to the ILO and pointed out that this international organization had lasted, while its parent League of Nations foundered because "the ILO had a good purpose, a human purpose, and it was not concerned with the acquisition of territory, or the struggle for power between countries, or imperialist design."

"The ILO has lasted," Mr. Meany said, "because it was concerned with the simple philosophy of improving the life of the workers in the world, getting shorter hours, increasing their income and improving working conditions. Today the ILO is more important than ever."

And about Bill Collins he said:

"He's the proper type of representative. He knows the trade union movement and he's a wonderful fellow."

Toastmaster of the day was Martin Lacey, president of the Central Trades and Labor Council. Present at the party were AFL Vice Presidents Matthew Woll and David Dubinski, president International Ladies Garment Workers Union; Richard Walsh, president International Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employes; Thomas A. Murray, president New York State Federation of Labor; George P. Delaney, AFL international representative and AFL delegate to the ILO; and Harry O'Reilly, director of organization, and several hundred more friends of Bill Collins.

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PRESIDENT, DIRECTOR, HOST.—Chicago.—Huddling just prior to formal opening of AFL Union Industries Show are AFL President William Green (right), Raymond F. Leheney (center), show director, and William A. Lee (left), president host Chicago Federation of Labor.

BATES SHOWS BRICKWORK.—Chicago.—AFL Vice President Harry C. Bates, president Bricklayers, inspects exhibit of cross-section of brickwork in his union's booth at the AFL Union Industries Show.

MEANY WELCOMED TO PLUMBERS EXHIBIT.—Chicago.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, member of Plumbers' Union Local 2, is welcomed to the Plumbers Union booth at AFL Union Industries Show.

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